## CLAIMS

1. A Process for preventing frauds with regard to a 5 equipped with an electronic taximeter (1) possessing a "for hire" position and a tariff position, which is associated with a printer whose job is to print, at the end of each trip, a receipt intended to be given to the customer, said printer having at least 10 its printing head (20) mechanically separate from the taximeter (1), but being electrically connected to it, which consists in detecting the occurrence disconnection of the printing head (20) of the printer with respect to the taximeter (1), and as the case may 15 be:

disconnection occurred if the while taximeter is in the "for hire" position, in prohibiting the subsequent switching of the taximeter into the tariff position, for as long as this disconnection endures;

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if the disconnection occurred while the taximeter is in the tariff position, in triggering an antifraud action.

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2. The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the antifraud action consists in neutralizing taximeter, so that it is then necessary to break a seal and/or to call on the authorities in charge of monitoring taximeters to reauthorize the operation of the neutralized taximeter.

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The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the antifraud action consists in saving the occurrence of the disconnection in a journal file or a contained in the taximeter, and wherein it is not possible to erase without breaking a seal calling on the authorities in charge of monitoring taximeters.

4. The process as claimed in claim 1 or 3, wherein the antifraud action consists moreover in making an item of information appear on a ticket.

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5. The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the neutralization of the taximeter transpires when the latter subsequently exits from the tariff position.

The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the

detection of a disconnection of the printing head (20) of the printer takes place at least during the request to switch from the "for hire" position to the tariff

position.

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7. The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the detection of a disconnection of the printing head (20) of the printer takes place at least during the request to print the receipt.

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8. The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein if the disconnection occurs while the taximeter is in the "for hire" position, the latter is signaled by the taximeter.

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9. The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein if the disconnection occurs while the taximeter is in the tariff position, the latter is signaled by the taximeter.

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- 10. The process as claimed in claim 8 or 9, wherein the signaling takes place by display on the dial (6) of the taximeter, or the emission of an alarm signal.
- 11. The process as claimed in claims 9 and 10, wherein the signaling of the disconnection takes place alternately with the displaying of the total for the trip.

- 12. The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the disconnection of the printing head of the printer is detected by the monitoring of signals dispatched by the printing head (20) destined for the remainder of the printer or the taximeter.
- 13. The process as claimed in claim 12, <u>wherein</u> the signals monitored are line return pulses or character synchronization pulses.

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- 14. The process as claimed in claim 12, wherein the signals monitored are signals emitted by an electronic module present in the printing head, in response to monitoring signals generated by the remainder of the printer or the taximeter.
- 15. The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the disconnection of the printer is detected by monitoring the electrical consumption of the printing head.

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- 16. The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein mechanically secure connectors which cannot be unplugged other than deliberately are employed for the connector or connectors for plugging in the printing head.
- 17. The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein it consists moreover in checking the paper supply to the printing head, and in triggering the antifraud action in the case where this supply is insufficient to allow correct printing of the receipt.
- 18. The process as claimed in claim 17, wherein the checking of the paper supply is performed during the request to print the receipt.
  - 19. The process as claimed in claim 17, wherein the checking of the paper supply makes it possible to

detect the absence of the roll of paper associated with the printing head.

- 20. The process as claimed in claim 19, wherein the checking of the paper supply makes it possible to detect that the length of paper present on the roll is sufficient to allow the complete printing of the receipt.
- 10 21. The process as claimed in claim 19, wherein the triggering of the antifraud action takes place after the checking, following the elapsing of a predetermined duration sufficient for the replacement of the paper roll.